

## King's Children.

### FROM GRAVELTON, IND.

I will try to say a few words to you through the paper. We have a small band of God's little lambs here at Gravelton, Ind. They number about 18 in attendance, from 11 to 14 years of age. They pay fees at the rate of two cents a month, and meet every Thursday evening. The writer is their present instructor, in the absence of sister Mast, their former instructor. I see little letters from some of the King's Children little folks in California. I have cousins in that State by the name of Harris. If any of them belong to the K. C. Society, I would be glad to see a letter from them.

Here is some poetry that a G. B. gave me ten years ago. I thought it would be nice for the paper. The children can sing it at their meetings. Sister Louisa Miller gave it to me:

#### RAILROAD SONG.

The way to heaven that Christ has laid,  
Of heavenly timbers the rails were made,  
From earth to heaven the line extends,  
To life eternal, where it ends.

CHORUS.—We are going home.

Obedience is the station then,  
Where passengers are taken in:  
Nothing for them there is to pay,  
For Jesus Himself is the way.

#### CHORUS.

The Bible is the engineer,  
It points the way to heaven so clear;  
Through tunnels dark and dreary here,  
It does the way to glory steer.

#### CHORUS.

God's love the flames, His truth the steam,  
That drives the engine to the train,  
All you who would to glory ride,  
Just come to Christ in him abide.

#### CHORUS.

Come then poor sinner, now's the time,  
At every station on the line,  
If you repent and turn from sin,  
The train will stop and take you in.

#### CHORUS.

Matthew 19.—Then there were brought unto him little children that he should put his hands on them and pray, and the disciples rebuked them, but Jesus said: Suffer little children and forbid them not, to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven. And he laid his hands on them. Dear children, Jesus is just the same to-day, even if we cannot see him.

MRS. MARGARET CLARK.

### A K. C. ORGANIZATION AT HOMER, O.

We have organized a King's Children society in Homer in the Brethren church. Please send me 50 of those topic cards, immediately. LEONARD HUMMEL.

Homerville, June 25.

### THE DEAREST WORD.

"I think," said Mary Corwin, "that of all the words in the Bible the word 'come' is the sweetest," and she began to sing softly:

"O word of words the sweetest,  
O word in which there be  
All promise, all fulfillment,  
And end of mystery,  
Lamenting or rejoicing,  
With doubt or terror nigh,  
I hear the 'Come' of Jesus,  
And to his cross I fly."

Mary had lately become a Christian, and the other Junior girls knew that the invitation which had brought her to Jesus must be very precious indeed.

"I think," said Eva Lamont, timidly, "that 'whosoever' is such a beautiful word—it means just anybody and everybody. 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have everlasting life.'"

Eva's father was a drunkard, and her home was a poor one. No wonder she loved the word which told of a gospel in which rich and poor stand together.

"I think 'rest' is the sweetest word," said Trudie Lee—"I will give you rest."

Poor Trudie worked in a great factory, where she was obliged to be at her place early in the morning, and to remain until dark. Very little rest she knew, so far as this workaday world was concerned.

Ethel Jordon's eyes had been slowly filling with tears while the others were speaking. She had lately lost both father and mother, and her life was very lonely. "I think," she said, trying hard to keep back the sobs, "that heaven is the dearest word in the Bible. 'In my Father's house are many mansions. If it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also.'"

"I think you are all of you right," said Miss Bell, the superintendent, gently. "The dearest word to each of us is the one which just exactly suits our needs; and for every need Jesus will surely give us the word we need most."

And the Juniors sang together the chorus of the beautiful hymn,

"Christ is all, all in all,  
Yes, Christ is all in all."

—The Lookout.

THE man who neither gives in charity nor enjoys his wealth, which every day increases, breathes, indeed, like the bellows of a smith, but cannot be said to live.—Hitopadesa.

## Our Question Drawer.

### OPEN COMMUNION.

Is it the general doctrine and practice of the Brethren church to hold what is popularly known as open Communion?

G. B. R.

Open Communion is not the general practice of the Brethren church. As to the doctrine of the church, we do not remember of any decision ever having been passed, defining the position of the Brethren church on this question. We are classed among close communionists, by others, but the church, through its regularly organized body, the National Conference, has never, to our knowledge, put itself on record in a clearly defined way on the question. It is generally understood by our people, that true children of God are proper subjects for communion, wherever they are found.

### THE TITLE OF REVERENCE.

Where do we find the word *reverend* in the Bible, and why do ministers use it as a prefix to their names?

The word *reverend* is found but once in the Bible, that in Psalms 111: 9, holy and reverend is his name. The word in this passage, is applied to God. By usage, it has become the honorary epithet of clergymen. A bishop is styled *right reverend*, an archbishop, *most reverend*. Most of our people prefer the title *Elder*, to *reverend*, it being a scriptural title. We do not think that there is anything inconsistent in the use of the term *reverend*, in the sense in which people now use it.

### THE DEACON'S OFFICE.

Is it according to the rules of the Brethren church, or is it according to the Scripture for a church to elect deacons at their every annual Business meeting, when new officers are elected for the church? Under instruction of our pastor we elected our deacons to serve for one year, and then we either have to elect them over again the next year or choose others. Our pastor would have us know that the deacon's time was up when the year for which they were elected was up. Please explain this matter and kindly oblige.

A BROTHER.

We have always understood the Brethren church to teach that deacons are elected for life, or during good behavior. To elect deacons for one year, we think is a mistake, and should not be done. Even when one has grown old in the office of a deacon, unable to attend to his duties by reason of age, others are elected to perform such duties, but the aged brother continues to hold his office through life.